

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor which drives driven equipment via a rotation shaft that is pivotally supported by a rolling bearing, ~~wherein the method comprising the step of rotating said vehicle electric motor is rotated~~ at a very low speed or in an intermittent manner when a vehicle is traveling and said driven equipment is not being used for operation of the vehicle.

2. (Original) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor according to claim 1, wherein said driven equipment is an auxiliary oil pump for supplying a hydraulic pressure of an ATF to a transmission, only at an idle stop of an engine.

3. (New) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor according to claim 1 further comprising the step of rotating said vehicle electric motor at an idle stop of an engine of said vehicle at an average rotation rate that is greater than said very low speed, wherein said vehicle electric motor is rotated at said very low speed

when said vehicle is traveling and said driven equipment is not being used for operation of said vehicle.

4. (New) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor according to claim 3, wherein said driven equipment is an auxiliary oil pump supplying a hydraulic pressure of an ATF to a transmission at the idle stop of the engine.

5. (New) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor which drives driven equipment via a rotation shaft that is pivotally supported by a rolling bearing, the method comprising the step of rotating said vehicle electric motor in an intermittent manner when a vehicle is traveling and said driven equipment is not being used for operation of the vehicle.

6. (New) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor according to claim 5, further comprising the step of rotating the vehicle electric motor continuously when said vehicle is not traveling and said driven equipment is being used for operation of the vehicle.

7. (New) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor according to claim 5, wherein a period of rotation of said vehicle electric motor is varied after each

rotation in the step of rotating said vehicle electric motor in an intermittent manner.

8. (New) A method of operating a vehicle electric motor according to claim 6, wherein the period of rotation of said vehicle electric motor is varied so that after rotation for the period of rotation a rotational angle of bearings in a raceway of said vehicle electric motor is distributed uniformly over the whole circumference of said raceway.